Mississippi Development Authority P.O. Box 849 Jackson, MS 39305

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MISSISSIPPI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES NEW MARKET OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN NORTH AMERICA: THE ADVANTAGES OF FREE TRADE SEMINAR

JACKSON, Miss., - Mississippi Development Authority, the state's lead economic development agency will co-sponsor a program to explain the advantages of trading with foreign countries. Participants will also be provided information to take advantage of gaining access into the Canadian and Mexican markets.

The seminar will be held Thursday, May 22, 2003 at the Grand Casino Oasis Hotel, 3215 West Beach Blvd., Gulfport, Mississippi. Registration and a Continental breakfast is from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., the program begins at 8:35 a.m. and concludes at 3:30 p.m.

"Because Mississippi companies compete in the global marketplace, we want businesses to have the latest information possible to trade internationally," said Robert J. Rohrlack, Jr., executive director, Mississippi Development Authority. "This seminar will give businesses the information they need to realize their potential when conducting business with other countries."

Registration for Mississippi World Trade Center members is \$60.00, non-members, \$75.00.

To register or for additional information, please contact Marta Miri at 601.359.3045 or Vickie Waters at 601.359.2070.